

# the vermilion sportsman



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## CITIZEN LAKE MONITORING..... a progress report

**By: Mel Hintz**

By the time you read this, Sportsmen's Club volunteers will be half done with the collection, processing, and shipping of water samples from the eight sites selected for study as part of the state-sponsored Citizen Lake Monitoring Program Plus. A map showing the location of the eight sites is included on our website ([www.sportsmensclublakevermilion.org](http://www.sportsmensclublakevermilion.org)) and is also in the May issue of our Sportsmen's Club newsletter. Samples were collected on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, and July 7<sup>th</sup>. The volunteers will get a break as staff from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) will be collecting water samples from the eight sites during the third week of July. This allows them to check the accuracy of our work as well as to re-supply our three volunteer teams with the materials needed for the remainder of the season which has sampling dates scheduled for August 4<sup>th</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup>, and September 2<sup>nd</sup>. MPCA staff will also be collecting the last set of samples for this season scheduled for late September.

For each of our three volunteer teams, the process of field collection, on shore processing, and delivery of the samples for shipment to the lab takes approximately four hours. Following is the sampling procedure for each site: 1) locate the site using GPS coordinates, 2) fill in the data and observation sheet, 3) note current weather conditions, the physical condition of the lake water, and the lake's recreational suitability, 4) take a secchi transparency reading, 5) record a temperature and dissolved oxygen profile from the lake surface to the bottom, and 6) collect water samples for laboratory analysis and/or on shore processing.

On shore processing consists of filtering the lake water to collect a chlorophyll-a sample and preserving an algae sample by adding Lugol's solution. The MPCA provides specialized equipment and supplies used in the collection and processing of the water sam-



Photo by Marshall Helmberger

ples. The samples must be refrigerated and/or frozen, in the case of the chlorophyll sample, before they are packed in ice and delivered to the DNR Office in Tower or the U.S. Forest Service Office in Cook for shipment to the lab the following day.

MPCA staff will analyze the laboratory results and prepare a written report after the sampling is completed in late September. Their report will be covered in a future issue of our newsletter and it will be posted on our Sportsmen's Club website.

# 40th ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

## Fortune Bay Resort

**Adults-\$16    Children-\$8 (12 and younger)**

***COOK***

**or E-mail: [lundblad@accessmn.com](mailto:lundblad@accessmn.com)**

or E-mail: [lovgren@frontiernet.net](mailto:lovgren@frontiernet.net)

*We'll be celebrating our 40th birthday!*



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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

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Spring finally sprung in late May! There was still ice in Big Bay on fishing opener and a lot of people were scrambling to find a place to launch. Pike Bay was closed all the way up to Puncher Point and not a lot of fish were caught the first day. The official "ice out" date was a couple of days after the opener — May 13th, I believe. Can you believe over 30 inches of heavy, wet snow at the very end of April? With that snowmelt Vermilion was less than 0.1 inches from its all-time high according to the lake level gauge at Moccasin Point. Many, many people had docks under water, losing decking and all kinds of other problems. I don't have my boatlift in yet because my dock decking had to be tied down to the frame! At present, I would estimate the level has dropped about 8 inches and I might have the lift in by the 4th of July.

The State Park acquisition was approved by the Legislature and negotiations are continuing with U.S. Steel for purchasing that property. The deadline is still August 1st to reach a final agreement with U.S. Steel. I, for one, think it will happen. It's still a wait and see proposition for now.

The Vermilion Plan is being sent to the townships for final comments, basically on the zoning maps. Please try to get to one of the open houses planned so that you can view your particular area and offer comments if necessary. Open houses are planned for July and August. See article on this page for the announcements for your areas.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary's "Boating Safety Course" scheduled for Saturday, April 12, 2008, was postponed until May 3rd due to the big snowstorms in April. It was a success and we are planning another for summer 2009. We plan to add more content on the Minnesota Boating Safety Course directed towards young operators to enable them to get their operator's permit from the DNR.

I hope you have noted the SCLV sponsored billboard regarding "Invasive Species" located on Highway 53 north of Virginia. That's just one aspect of our "Invasive Species" prevention program that we are trying to expand this year to cover more launches.

Our sucker sales from the hatchery took a big hit this year also. We only sold a few hundred pounds due to the weather again! The walleye run started, then stopped, then started again. It was a pretty good year for walleyes, but zilch for suckers.

The first water sampling of the lake has been completed and our volunteers are once again doing an excellent job.

The weather has cooperated so the samples were collected and shipped off for evaluation on time. It will be interesting to compare this year's results with the year 2000 results. I won't even speculate as to whether the lake has improved or declined. I hope it has improved!

This year we had to have one of the dock decks at a picnic site repaired. If you visit any of our picnic sites and see needed repairs, please notify one of the board members. Thanks.

Finally, please make your reservations for our annual meeting Saturday, August 9, at Fortune Bay Resort. Mark Holsten, DNR Commissioner, will be our guest speaker. Hope to see a great turnout.

To another great year on Vermilion!  
Walt Moe, President

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## New 'Lake Vermilion Plan' proposed zoning maps available for public viewing!

Lake Vermilion Plan Zoning Maps are being sent to the organized townships for review and comment. There will be **four open house information meetings** regarding the proposed Lake Vermilion Zoning. The meetings will be held at the following locations and times:

1. **July 17, 2008**, at 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. at 307 First Street South, Virginia, in the Northland Office Center, Liz Prebich Conference Room (3F elevator).

2. **July 23, 2008**, 4 p.m.-7 p.m., at the St. Louis County Land Department facility located on Highway 53 north of Cook.

3. **July 24, 2008**, 4 p.m.-7 p.m., in the Ely St. Louis County Public Works Facility located at 2210 East Sheridan Street, Ely, Minnesota.

4. **August 21, 2008**, at the Northland Office Center listed above from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., prior to the Planning Commission public hearing.

5. *The St. Louis County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, August 21, 2008, at 1 p.m. at the*

*(Continued on Page 7)*

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# A Lake Vermilion State Park update!

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*By Paul Maurer, DNR State Park Regional Mgr.*

**June 27, 2008**

On the last day of the 2007/08 legislative session, Governor Pawlenty and the Minnesota Legislature agreed to the creation of Lake Vermilion State Park. They also approved the bonding of \$20 million to purchase the U.S. Steel property adjacent to the eastern side of Soudan Underground Mine State Park.

So, what's happened since then?

We are happy to say that positive negotiations between U.S. Steel and the DNR acquisition team are now underway. Soon we hope to announce the successful completion of these talks, the transfer of the U.S. Steel property to the state, and the beginning of the process to plan and develop Minnesota's newest state park. (It is important to note that, despite what some believe, the U.S. Steel property does not yet belong to the state. Public access to these lands is still restricted.)

Once negotiations are complete and the property belongs to the citizens of Minnesota, assessment and planning work begins. We will let you, the public, know when that transfer occurs, and we intend to allow some limited access as soon as possible. Most likely that will be restricted to day-use hiking – at least until an assessment of natural and cultural resources and planning efforts are under way.

We recognize the public's interest in immediately using the property, however, we want to balance that with protection of the significant natural, cultural and geologic features that led the Legislature to deem it worthy of preserving the land as a state park. Safety of park visitors during construction activities is also a strong consideration for limiting access in the initial stages.

Under state law, a park management plan must be developed with public input. A formal park planning process will begin soon after the property is acquired by the state. There will be opportunities for interested stakeholders in the local area and throughout Minnesota to participate in developing a park plan that creates a clear vision for the park – one that will make the park enjoyable for public use and sustainable for future generations of park visitors.

We will provide on-going, up-to-date communication about progress of the new park as it evolves through the various stages of planning and development. Look for more detailed updates in future editions of this newsletter on the specific steps that will take place.

I want to thank the Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion for their support of the state park initiative. We look forward to working with you more closely in the coming years!

For more information about the proposed state park, visit the DNR website at [http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/lake\\_vermilion/index.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/lake_vermilion/index.html) or refer to articles in recent editions of this newsletter.

*Paul Maurer has worked for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for 31 years as a state park ranger, statewide park operations specialist, regional park operations supervisor and for the past two years, as Regional Parks Manager for Northeastern Minnesota. His region includes 21 state parks and 36 state forest campgrounds.*

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## A View from the Proposed State Park



# DNR Commissioner Mark Holsten will headline 40th annual meeting Saturday, August 9, at Fortune Bay

Our Sportsmen's Club's 40th Annual Meeting and Dinner is set for Saturday, August 9, at Fortune Bay Resort. This is the 12th year we have had the dinner meeting at Fortune Bay and, as in past years, the meeting will be held in the resort's second floor ballroom.

The featured speaker this year is Mark Holsten, Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

## Please make your reservations by Monday, August 4.

The following board members will take your reservations: COOK: Ray and Vi Harris, 666-2300 or Dale and Nan Lundblad, 666-2316. TOWER: Paula Bloczynski, 753-2107 or Jeff and Kathy Lovgren, 753-2413.

We're planning a social hour at 5 pm, followed by the buffet at 6. Dinner prices are \$16 for adults and \$8 for children age 12 and younger.

After dinner the business meeting agenda will include reports from board members and officers along with election of board members. This year we will be electing members to fill the 3-year board positions currently held by Ray Harris, Dale Lundblad, Bob Wilson and Ed Zottola. The nominating committee will present a slate of board candidates at the annual meeting. The slate will include those board members

seeking re-election plus nominees to fill the positions currently held by Ray Harris and Ed Zottola. Board nominations can also be made from the floor at the annual meeting, with the nominee's permission.

As a part of our 40th anniversary celebration, board member Judy Moline has prepared an entertaining presentation that looks back at the accomplishments of the club over the first 40 years of its history.

Other features at the meeting will be the ever-popular door prize drawings and the opportunity for members and guests to talk about matters of personal concern regarding club business or problems around the lake. And, members will be interested to see a special display by the Turn in Poachers (TIP) organization and meet that group's executive director, Al Thomas.

The club's annual dinner meeting is always casual — come as you are in vacation attire. This is our one big get-together of the year, and we all look forward to meeting old and new friends from around the lake.

We hope to see you on **Saturday, August 9**. Please mark your calendar, phone in your reservation and plan to join us at Fortune Bay Resort for the Sportsmen's Club's 40th annual dinner meeting.

— Paula Bloczynski, Secretary

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS and OFFICERS 2007-2008

(All phone numbers are Area Code 218)

### COOK (55723)

Ray Harris..... 7341 Oak Narrows Road ..... 666-2300  
Dale Lundblad ..... 9082 Little Sweden Road. 666-2316 (B.I.C. 666-5352)  
Ed Zottola ..... 2866 Vermilion Drive..... 666-5542  
Ed Tausk..... Vermilion Dam Lodge ..... 666-5418  
Judy Moline ..... 8780 Raps Road..... 666-5716  
Gary Lundquist.... PO Box 236 ..... 666-2756

### TOWER (55790)

Walt Moe, **Pres.**..... 3331 Nisen Drive ..... 753-3816  
Mel Hintz, **Vice Pres.** ..... 6119 Pike Bay Drive..... 753-2401  
Paula Bloczynski, **Sec.**..... 4443 Big Rock Road..... 753-2107  
Bob Wilson, **Treas.**..... 1501 Echo Point ..... 753-5544  
Jeff Lovgren (Member Records).... 2113 Birch Point Road ..... 753-2413  
Mardy Jackson ..... 2065 County Road 77 ..... 753-3549

**SCLV Board Meetings** are held monthly on the second Wednesday, and are open to all SCLV members. Check with a board member for time and location.

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# REMOTE LIVING... How we started



By Gary Lundquist

When my wife and I first started to think of a vacation home, we had been on Lake Superior. We loved it, but we wanted a warmer, large lake. Lucky us, we found on Vermilion an affordable, buildable lot (did I mention very vertical and boat access?). I'm not positive, but I seem to remember the seller doing a backflip on the way to his car after the closing.

Now that we own the land, what next? Well-planned, huh?! After a couple of incidents with bears and tents, we decided to first build a small bunkhouse that we could change into a sauna. Oh, and a privy, and of course, a dock. We were even able to do some fishing that first summer.

The next summer we built stairs and stairs and stairs. Wow! The amount of materials to build 116 steps to what ended up being 70-foot vertical. Did I mention I don't like heights? While we were building the stairs, a fisherman trolled by, looked up and exclaimed, "NO WAY!" Made me feel all warm and fuzzy. Even squeaked in some more fishing that summer. I caught my personal best walleye that year, over 10 pounds.

During the following winter, we planned the cabin, bought the materials for the shell, and made arrangements with the barge guy. What an occupation! We took delivery that spring. Hire all the help you can get so that when you're done you still have friends. Everything, and I do mean everything, here has been hand carried up what amounts to a seven-story building. A friend who watched from the lake said it looked like an army of ants going up and down the slope. Then we started to build the cabin. We wanted a loft, which made the cabin rather tall — 25 feet from floor to ridge — and did I mention I don't like heights? By that fall we had the shell up with roof and doors in. We had to be careful not to work our friends and family too hard (the excuses not to come were getting inventive).

In December of that year our daughter informed us that she was with child or, more accurately, three. "Triplets" — Great! Wait, OH NO! The lake place is not big enough.

The rest of the winter and into the spring I'm buying windows and my wife is buying baby stuff. Talk about messing up a construction budget. The beautiful ladies were born on Mother's Day. YUP! The holy of holies, opener of fishing weekend. I've got to talk to my son-in-law about planning. The rest of the summer was very busy with placing all the windows, building the deck and admiring the granddaughters. We even were able to get them up here in early September.

To be continued...

*Board member Gary Lundquist and his wife, Marlene, live on the south shore of Black Bay in the extreme northwest portion of Lake Vermilion. This is a wild, mostly undeveloped and very beautiful area of the lake which will always remain roadless. To get to their home, Gary and Marlene must travel approximately 12 miles north from Cook, the last three miles on a rough and winding gravel road, to their landing and then cross about a mile of water by boat in all types of weather. They live there year around, which presents additional interesting challenges.*

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## 'Lake Vermilion Plan' proposed zoning maps

(Continued from page 3)

*Mt. Iron Community Center located at 8586 Enterprise Drive, Mt. Iron, Minnesota.*

The purpose of the open houses is for individuals to review proposed zoning and ask questions about their property or other concerns. There will not be a formal presentation at the meetings.

Questions or comments on the plan should be directed to the following staff:

Jenny Bourbonais at 218-749-0629 or  
bourbonaisj@co.st-louis.mn.us,  
Mary Anderson at 218-749-0626 or  
andersonm3@co.st-louis.mn.us or  
Roanne Axdahl at 218-725-5006 or  
axdahlr@co.st-louis.mn.us

*Maps for each location are located on the county website at [www.co.st-louis.mn.us](http://www.co.st-louis.mn.us). Then click on: departments/plan-ning and development/physical planning/current planning projects/lake vermillion plan/and then proposed zoning maps by individual townships.*

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# “*Invasive Species*”

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by Bob Wilson

## WEED HUNTING

It was a warm summer day, the skies were blue with few clouds, and hardly a ripple existed on the water. It was a good day for hunting invasive species plants in Lake Vermilion. Of course some of you would rather have been fishing, but the plan to look for possible invasive species was intriguing for me.

Duane Williams, Tower DNR Fisheries, had offered to take me to Everett Bay to see if we could sight any Curly Leaf Pondweed (*potamogeton crispus*). We launched his boat at the Everett Bay public ramp and began our inspection. Many of you readers familiar with Everett Bay know that it has been known for its tendency to produce abundant, prolific weeds over much of the bay's shoreline areas in most years. On this day, June 26, 2008, looking out over the water from the dock, hardly a weed could be sighted. At this time of the year, mats of weeds have usually started to form. Duane conjectured that the cold spring and present high water had slowed growth and the weeds had not yet been able to rise to the water's surface.

Out in the boat, the view changed rather significantly. Below the surface we could see weeds in many loca-

tions. Only a relative few, compared to a normal year, were laying their leaves on the surface water as yet. We hand picked many of the weeds while cruising and obtained a few more by throwing out a multi-pronged anchor-like device to snag others. We placed them in a bucket and came up with quite a variety including White-Stem Pondweed, Narrow Leaf Pondweed, Robbins Pondweed, Coontail, *Curly Leaf Pondweed*, *unfortunately*, and some water lily leaves. Northern Milfoil, a native species oftentimes confused with Eurasian Milfoil—a terrible exotic, was missing from our collection along with numerous other weeds from the bay. Next time!

Usually, in the spring, the Curly Leaf Pondweed, an exotic non-native plant, produces flower spikes that stick up above the water. It also produces vegetative buds called turions that look like small, brown pine cones on shortened branches along the stem. The flower seeds only play a small role in reproduction compared to the turions. Studies have shown that as many as 1600 turions can appear in just a square meter plot. In some cases, 60-80% of the turions germinate, a daunting prospect indeed.

In our inspection, although it may be premature to say so because of the late weed bloom this spring, most of the Curly Leaf Pondweed appeared around the public ramp site and up and down the shoreline area a few hundred feet from that point. If that still appears to be the case when we return in a few weeks we could surmise that the Curly Leaf exotic weed was introduced by a boater launching at the ramp with this vegetation clinging to his/her boat and trailer, but who knows how long ago?

What can be done about it is the big question. For one thing it might help, when launching a boat from the Everett Bay public ramp, to cruise away from the dock



**Curly Leaf Pondweed**

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# *“Invasive Species”*

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**Left to right: White-Stem Pondweed, Narrow Leaf Pondweed, Robbins Pondweed, Coontail, Curly Leaf Pondweed and a Lily Pad leaf at the top.**

at a slow speed to avoid cutting as many plants with the propeller as possible. The loose plant material may float away and reseed itself in another location. When no surface weeds are seen you may be far enough out to accelerate. Another important step would be to thoroughly inspect and clean your equipment particularly when leaving either the Everett Bay public ramp and/or the marina at Fortune Bay. Both sites can be socked-in with weeds all summer long. When a mass of weeds has collected on the trailer, boat and motor it is difficult to distinguish if Curly Leaf Pondweed is among them. Remember, it is illegal to transport exotics and if your next destination is another bay in Lake Vermilion, you could easily and unknowingly start another infestation right here at home. Always clean your equipment of all signs of vegetation. Don't forget to check under trailer fenders, the propeller and even anchors and anchor ropes.

Have an opinion? Let us know at:  
[feedback@sportsmensclublakevermilion.org](mailto:feedback@sportsmensclublakevermilion.org)

What to do about Curly Leaf Pondweed in Everett Bay for the long term is a difficult question. Sometimes herbicides are used, but they don't always have the intended results and some people will probably question the consequence of using them in Lake Vermilion. Buoying off certain areas might be somewhat effective, but other patches may be occurring as the weed tends to spread or is it spreading and how fast? We don't know for sure. This is really a problem to be reviewed by a specialist. Duane and I will take another look when the weeds in the bay have become more numerous. I'll try and keep you posted.

Another interesting weed was the White-Stem Pondweed (*potamogeton praelongus*). This pondweed may be a big contributor to the fouling of motor props and fish lines during the summer in Everett Bay. It has thick, lush green leaves that can be almost a foot long and an inch and a quarter wide. The tip of the leaf is boat-shaped and splits when pressed creating a notch at the end. The weed is common and native across the northern and western U.S. I'm sure we will see more of it when we go out again.



**White-Stem Pondweed**

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# *“Invasive Species”*

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by Bob Wilson

## **SCLV & DNR BOAT CHECKS**

Below is our 2008 summer boat check schedule.

May 9, the Friday before the walleye opener on the 10th.

May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Friday leading to Memorial Day on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Thursday before the start of the July 4, Friday & weekend.

August 29, the Friday before the Labor Day (Sept 1) weekend.

We have completed our May 9 and May 23<sup>rd</sup> inspections. On the opening of fishing season (5/9) you may remember that the weather was chilly and some of the ramps were actually still iced-in. Nevertheless, we visited with the owners of 41 boats and wished them good fishing from Hoodoo Point and Moccasin Point. Several were headed for Trout Lake Portage from Moccasin. In this case we can say “a commitment to camp and fish stays in affect no matter what the weather has in store??” Ice was floating in small chunks around the Moccasin dock as they rode off and we could see a large expanse of ice out toward the Isle of Pines and the bridge. COOL!

On the Memorial weekend we visited with 107 boaters. The weather had improved, but May and early June had been less than outstanding. We hand out our ID cards showing Lake Vermilion Sport Fish and their regulations on one side and the “Invasive Species” we are trying to prevent on the other. Our boating and fishing friends seem to appreciate them and it gives us a chance to talk about “Invasives Prevention” and inspect their boat. Cooperation is almost always very good. **THUS FAR, NO EXOTIC SPECIES HAVE BEEN DETECTED.**

We had been informed by the DNR that they would be inspecting boats on Vermilion at the Hoodoo Point, Everett Bay and Stuntz Bay ramps on July 6<sup>th</sup> between 10A and 7:30P. The inspector would be dividing his/her time between these locations. We are always appreciative when the DNR provides inspection personnel on Vermilion. It’s a big lake; the Club cannot be out there all the time or cover all of the boat launch facilities. Thanks to Heidi Wolf, DNR Watercraft Inspection Coordinator and Connie Isermann, Watercraft Inspection Program Assistant for making these arrangements and keeping us informed.

NOTE: There is a new public ramp located a short distance (six tenths of a mile) from Moccasin Point off highway 77. It’s on Bradley Road, also called County Road 949 about a mile in from 77 and just beyond Shamrock Marina. It is spacious, blacktopped, has free parking and is safer than parking on the road. It’s called the Black Duck Bay Public Water Access. Try it!



**Invasive Species are a very serious, nationwide, costly problem.**  
**HELP PROTECT LAKE VERMILION**

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# How To Stay Safe While Enjoying Your Boat

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Following a safety regimen on your boat is just as important as following one in your home. While many people have items such as fire alarms and extinguishers in their homes, they don't think to take the same safeguards on their boats.

If your boat has a cabin, it should have a fire alarm and for added safety install a carbon monoxide detector. Getting an early warning can literally save your life!

The American Boat and Yacht Council now requires that a carbon monoxide detector is installed on all new boats. Even if your boat is powered by a generator it doesn't mean that you are safe from carbon monoxide. Heating and cooking appliances and even lanterns can emit deadly carbon monoxide.

You should always carry a fire extinguisher aboard your boat no matter what size it is. For the best fire protection, make sure that there is a fire extinguisher on both ends of your boat even if it's a small boat.

It may surprise you to know that the regular 10-BC dry chemical type fire extinguishers will only last for about 10 seconds if you need to use them! They are great for really small fires or fires that you see immediately, but if it turns serious they won't be any help.

There are also Coast Guard regulations that you must follow when choosing an extinguisher for your boat. If your boat is over 26 feet long, you are required to have at least two 10-BC extinguishers onboard.

You may also be surprised to learn that even if you follow the Coast Guard regulations, you'll only be equipped to extinguish small fires! For better protection keep at least a B-11 extinguisher onboard, or better yet go for at least a 60-BC rated fire extinguisher.

Another Coast Guard regulation requires that you keep three daytime use and three nighttime use flares onboard if your boat exceeds 16 feet in length. But, no matter what size your boat is, flares may be your only way to signal for help in an emergency.

Flares should be kept in waterproof containers and make sure you check the expiration dates regularly. The flares often still work beyond their expiration dates and can be kept aboard as long as you add new ones.

Even if you and your passengers are expert swimmers, no boat should leave shore without life jackets for each person onboard. An expert swimmer will still drown if they're injured and can't swim!

There are three different types of life jackets, Type I, Type II and Type III. While having any life jacket on your boat is better than none at all, the right one could make all the difference in life or death!

The best type of life jacket to carry is Type I. In an emergency it can save your life literally without any help from you! It has more buoyancy than the other two types and will keep you floating face up.

Type II is a lot cheaper, but cutting corners on a life-saving device isn't the best way to save money! Compared to the buoyancy of the Type I jacket, this one only has about a third as much. It is very uncomfortable and won't keep you floating face up in the water.

Type III life jackets live up to all the requirements of the Coast Guard, but in reality it's only good for emergencies that happen close to shore. They do provide about the same buoyancy as the Type II jackets and are very comfortable.

If comfort is a main concern, opt for manually inflatable PFDs; they are also Type III life preservers. They keep you afloat face up and are extremely comfortable to wear.

Want to add a seasonal address?  
Want to change your main address?

membership@sportsmensclublakevermilion.org  
or call 218-753-2413

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# New, Economical and Environmentally Friendly Outboard Motors

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(Excerpted from Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation brochure, March 2000)

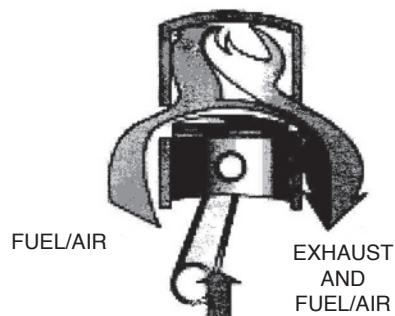
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## The Problem with Carbureted 2-Stroke Outboard Engines

Vermont's beautiful lakes and rivers provide many opportunities for boaters to enjoy the water. Boating is very popular and the number of motorboats in Vermont continues to increase. Unfortunately, most motorboats and personal watercraft (PWC) on Vermont's waters use carbureted 2-stroke outboard engines. No matter how well tuned, these engines **lose approximately 20 to 30 percent of their fuel** as it passes through the combustion chamber unburned. **For every 10 gallons of gasoline used, two to three end up in the air and water!** An estimated 500,000 to 750,000 gallons of fuel is emitted unburned into Vermont's lakes and ponds every year!

**Gasoline is toxic!** It contains hundreds of chemical compounds, many of which are known or suspected of causing cancer. **It is in everyone's best interest to keep gasoline out of the air and water.** The good news is that cleaner, advanced technology outboard motors are now available.

Carbureted 2-Stroke Engine



*During the piston's down-stroke the intake and exhaust ports are both open. This allows some fuel to pass straight through without being burned.*

## New Technology — Cleaner Engines

Fortunately there is a new breed of efficient engines available from marine engine dealers. These engines are much cleaner and meet federal regulations that are scheduled to take effect in 2006. The outboards come in two types: 4-stroke engines, which have been around for years in lower horsepower ratings, and the newer direct fuel injection (DFI) 2-stroke engines which propel higher horsepower outboards and PWCs.

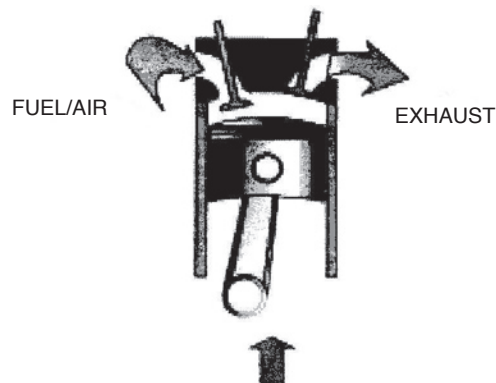
### 4-Stroke Engines

Four-stroke engines are the cleanest outboard motors and are currently available in horsepower ratings up to 130 hp. The intake and exhaust valves are never open at the same time. This prevents unburned fuel from escaping the combustion chamber.

Four-stroke engines run on straight gasoline, so you never have to mix oil with the gas.

Four-stroke engines are quiet, and are the most fuel-efficient outboard motors available.

4-Stroke Engine

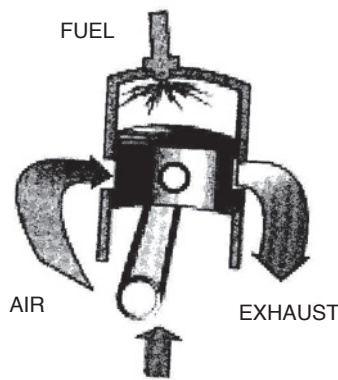


*The 4-stroke engine never operates with both the intake and exhaust valves open at the same time. This prevents unburned fuel from escaping the combustion chamber.*

## Direct Fuel Injection

Two-stroke engines with direct fuel injection (DFI) spray fuel into the cylinder after the piston covers the exhaust port on the up-stroke. The fuel is injected into the top of the cylinder next to the spark plug. While this technology isn't as efficient as a 4-stroke engine, it is much cleaner than the carbureted 2-strokes. DFI engines also reduce oil use by 50 percent over conventional carbureted 2-stroke outboard engines. They are currently available in horsepower ratings from 90 hp. to 225 hp.

### DFI 2-Stroke Engine



*DFI engines inject fuel into the cylinder after the exhaust port is blocked by the piston.*

The new 4-stroke and DFI engines cost about 20 percent more than the old carbureted 2-stroke engines. However, they burn 30 to 50 percent less gas, save on oil use, and in a short period of time save the consumer money. And you can feel good about using a motor that's better for the environment.

## New Federal Regulations

Carbureted 2-stroke outboard motors are the most commonly used engines on motorboats. Because of the way they are designed, 20 to 30 percent of the fuel used to power them never gets burned and is emitted into the water and air. Recognizing this problem, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency developed regulations that require outboard motor manufacturers to develop cleaner engines. These regulations will be phased in over a period of many years, but the cleaner engines are available for sale now! They cost a little more, but they burn less gas and are much quieter than the older motors. You can help reduce the pollution of water and air by replacing your outboard with one of the newer 4-stroke or direct fuel injection 2-stroke outboard motors.

### The new 4-stroke and 2-stroke outboard motors are:

- ☒ Cleaner
- ☒ Quieter
- ☒ Fuel-Efficient
- ☒ Better for the Environment

Maybe it's time to upgrade your outboard!

"The charm of fishing is that it is the pursuit of that which is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope"  
— Anonymous

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# 26th Loon Survey Report for 2008... Mardy Jackson

Hooray! Thanks to my fellow Sportsmen's Club board member Dale Lundblad and the cooperation of the Cook News-Herald (who publishes our newsletter), we'll be able to have our loon count published in the August newsletter rather than the November issue when folks are thinking about Thanksgiving, Christmas and their winter retreats — surely not about loons. So I have a window, small as it is, between today's count and the morning's deadline.

This morning, Monday, July 14, could not possibly have been more ideal for our loon count. Sunny, calm, cool — just perfect! All this sandwiched in between days of rain, wind and storms. I think somebody up there is cheering us on.

We have 22 territories on the lake — 10 on the Cook or west end which Claire Zwieg coordinates and feeds the numbers to me on the east or Tower end where we have 12 territories. Out of the 22 territories, 16 were higher than last year, so there's joy in the hearts of the loon lovers of Lake Vermilion for 2008.

Our total count for this year is 281. Last year we had 253, so we're up a total of 28. When I average out the last 10 years, the figure is 248, so we have a healthy population here. And the chick count! Listen to this — we doubled last year's 21 — we have 42!

In the early summer it was cold, windy and rainy. The hatch here was generally later than usual, although one of our observers saw a couple of fairly larger chicks, so one pair was quite clever.

I have a confession to make and an apology to make to the adult loons. In my mind, I chastised them for taking off in September and leaving their "kids

in the spray," so to speak. The juveniles would then "beef up" to make their migration in late November. And I thought, how did the poor things know where their folks went and where were they to go?

Well, it all became clearer when I talked with Pam

Perry who is with the DNR in Brainerd. (I send my loon report to her each year.) The adults go to a huge rendezvous over in Big Winnie or Mille Lacs; thousands of them gather. They are still in Minnesota, so they don't completely ditch the kids. I don't know if the juveniles were given previous instructions, or if by instinct they head south and just happen to run into these



Photo from: Dr. Bayard French (on Lake Vermilion).

big lakes. I should have checked further. But when they all head south, they're not pretty. They've lost their stunning plumage and have reverted to a dull grey-brown.

Our club can be very proud of the 57 volunteers who so graciously collectively gave 57-1/2 hours of their time for this survey. The federal government will donate money to the Minnesota Nongame Wildlife programs for the time our volunteers gave to this venture. This information is gathered for our own membership as well as being valuable to the DNR for our 26 consistent years of reporting. My reports go to Carroll Henderson, Nongame Wildlife supervisor for the state, regional headquarters in Grand Rapids and Brainerd.

Claire and I thank all you volunteers. Please know you are the ones who make the loon count on Lake Vermilion possible. If anyone would like to participate, drop a note to: SCLV at P.O. Box 696, Tower, MN 55790. Have a good summer!

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## MISSION STATEMENT of The Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion, Inc.

— To promote and enhance the outdoor experience of Lake Vermilion for present and future generations by

- a. Maintaining and improving the Lake Vermilion fishery
- b. Promoting "Catch and Release"
- c. Promoting safe boating practices
- d. Establishing and maintaining a "Night Navigational Aid System"
- e. Establishing and maintaining shore lunch/picnic sites
- f. Monitoring and protecting area wildlife

— To protect and improve the water quality of Lake Vermilion by

- a. Monitoring water quality in cooperation with interested government agencies
- b. Promoting shoreline preservation and re-vegetation
- c. Monitoring exotic species and preventing their spread
- d. Promoting sound conservation practices in the Lake Vermilion watershed

— To educate club members and the public regarding issues which impact Lake Vermilion by

- a. Publishing a periodic newsletter and distributing it to club members and the public
- b. Maintaining an internet website containing previously published newsletters and other information about the club and Lake Vermilion
- c. Publishing news releases and articles pertaining to club activities in other publications

## Our Goal: All Newsletters to All Members

We know it's important that each member receives each newsletter on time. So we've been working on ways to be sure that happens. Here's a few:

**Seasonal Address:** We can now easily switch between a main and a seasonal address for each member. We can accommodate these folks. How about you?

- Predictable Schedule Every Year: "I head to my winter residence each year on November 15th and return to the lake each year on April 15th. If my schedule varies, I'll let you know."
- Known Schedule This Year: "My plans are different each year, but I can tell you now that I'll be at my lake cabin this year from May 1, 2008, until Dec 15, 2008. If I change my mind, I'll let you know."
- Flexible Schedule: "I never know ahead of time when I'll be switching addresses. But I'm at my seasonal cabin address now, and I'll let you know when I'm about to head back to the Twin Cities for the winter months."

**Mailing Hold:** If you know you'll be on-the-road for a few weeks between addresses, we'll be glad to delay mailing your newsletter until you're ready for mail delivery at your new location. Just let us know.

**Newsletter Mailing Announced on Website:** When we mail an issue of our newsletter, The Vermilion Sportsman, we'll announce that on the front page of our website [www.sportsmensclublakevermilion.org](http://www.sportsmensclublakevermilion.org). Normally those mailings happen about the first of March, May, August and November. If you do not receive your copy after a reasonable time or if it's damaged in the mail, please let us know. We will correct the problem.

**Address Change Hotline:** If you'd like to add a seasonal address, change your main address, or tell us about anything discussed above, please send us an email at [membership@sportsmensclublakevermilion.org](mailto:membership@sportsmensclublakevermilion.org) or call Jeff Lovgren at 218-753-2413. We'll reply to each email to confirm receipt of your instructions.

Jeff Lovgren  
Member Records Chairman

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*Only the guy who isn't rowing has time to rock the boat.*

— Jean-Paul Sartre, French existentialist philosopher  
and writer, 1905-1980

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### **Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion, Inc.**

Jeff Lovgren, Member Records • P.O. Box 696 • Tower MN 55790  
lovgren@frontiernet.net • (218) 753-2413

Membership year runs from Jan 1st through Dec 31st

2008 New Member

2008 Renewal

Membership level

\$10.00 Individual

\$20.00 Family

\$15.00 Couple

\$50.00 Business or Organization

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Main Street \_\_\_\_\_

Address City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal Street \_\_\_\_\_

Address City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Seasonal address period \_\_\_\_\_

Every year

Just this year

Contact me to discuss when to use seasonal address

Please clip or copy this form and send to the address above.

## **Become a Member**

Add your voice to your friends' who love Lake Vermilion as much as you do. Help us continue the many activities we have under way by becoming a member.

Not sure? Check us out at our website [www.sportsmensclublakevermilion.org](http://www.sportsmensclublakevermilion.org). We're pretty sure you'll like our vision and the direction we're heading to make Lake Vermilion even better.

Join us as we work to improve this great lake. Together we can have an even bigger impact!

Please use the form on this page or the form on our website. Make checks payable to the "Sportsmen's Club of Lake Vermilion." The Sportsmen's Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

## **HELP US MAKE A BEAUTIFUL LAKE EVEN BETTER!**



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